

# HOUSE BILL No. 1209

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 25-23.6.

**Synopsis:** Bachelor's social worker licensing. Provides that a person who has a bachelor's degree in social work and meets certain other requirements may be licensed as a bachelor's social worker.

**Effective:** July 1, 2002.

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**Bischoff**

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January 10, 2002, read first time and referred to Committee on Human Affairs.

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Introduced

Second Regular Session 112th General Assembly (2002)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2001 General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1209

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning professions and occupations.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 25-23.6-1-1.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
2 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2002]: **Sec. 1.7. "Bachelor's social worker"**  
4 **means an individual who is licensed under IC 25-23.6-5-2.5.**

5 SECTION 2. IC 25-23.6-1-3.8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
6 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2002]: Sec. 3.8. Except as provided  
7 in IC 25-23.6-7-5, as used in this chapter, "counselor" refers to a social  
8 worker, clinical social worker, **bachelor's social worker**, marriage and  
9 family therapist, or a mental health counselor who is licensed under  
10 this article.

11 SECTION 3. IC 25-23.6-4-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
12 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2002]: Sec. 1. An individual may  
13 not:

- 14 (1) profess to be a licensed social worker, ~~or~~ licensed clinical  
15 social worker, **or licensed bachelor's social worker**;  
16 (2) use the title:  
17 (A) "licensed social worker";

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IN 1209—LS 6837/DI 107+



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(B) "licensed clinical social worker";

(C) "clinical social worker";

(D) "psychiatric social worker"; ~~or~~

(E) "psychosocial worker"; **or**

**(F) "licensed bachelor's social worker";**

(3) use any other title containing the words "licensed social worker", ~~or~~ "licensed clinical social worker", **or "licensed bachelor's social worker";**

(4) use any other words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that the individual is a licensed social worker, ~~or~~ licensed clinical social worker, **or licensed bachelor's social worker; or**

(5) practice as a licensed social worker, ~~or~~ clinical social worker, **or bachelor's social worker** for compensation;

unless the individual is licensed under this article.

SECTION 4. IC 25-23.6-4-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2002]: Sec. 5. An individual who is licensed as a social worker, ~~or~~ clinical social worker, **or licensed bachelor's social worker** shall:

(1) display the license or a clear copy of the license at each location where the social worker or clinical social worker regularly practices; and

(2) include the words "licensed social worker", ~~or~~ "licensed clinical social worker", **or "bachelor's social worker"**, or the letters "LSW", ~~or~~ "LCSW", **or "LBSW"** on all promotional materials, including business cards, brochures, stationery, advertisements, and signs that name the individual.

SECTION 5. IC 25-23.6-5-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2002]: **Sec. 2.5. (a) An individual who applies for a license as a bachelor's social worker must meet the following requirements:**

**(1) Furnish satisfactory evidence to the board that the individual:**

**(A) has received at least a bachelor's degree in social work from:**

**(i) an institution of higher education that is accredited or approved for candidacy by the Council on Social Work Education or that is approved by the board; or**

**(ii) a foreign school that has a program of study that is approved by the Foreign Equivalency Determination Service of the Council on Social Work Education; and**



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(B) will, after receiving a bachelor's social worker license under this section, practice social work under the supervision of a licensed social worker, a licensed clinical social worker, or another supervisor, for the equivalent of two (2) years.

(2) Furnish satisfactory evidence to the board that the individual does not have a conviction for a crime that has a direct bearing on the individual's ability to practice competently.

(3) Furnish satisfactory evidence to the board that the individual has not been the subject of a disciplinary action by a licensing or certification agency of another state or jurisdiction on the grounds that the individual was not able to practice as a social worker without endangering the public.

(4) Pass a basic examination required by the board.

(5) Pay the fee established by the board.

(b) The scope of practice of an individual licensed under this section is the same as the scope of practice of an individual licensed under section 1 of this chapter.

SECTION 6. IC 25-23.6-5-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2002]: Sec. 4. An individual who satisfies the requirements of section 1, ~~or 2, or 2.5~~ of this chapter ~~and section 3 of this chapter~~, may take the examination provided by the board.

SECTION 7. IC 25-23.6-5-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2002]: Sec. 11. (a) The board may issue a temporary permit to an individual to profess to be a social worker, ~~or clinical social worker~~, **or bachelor's social worker** if the individual pays a fee and the individual:

(1) has a valid license or certificate to practice from another state and the individual has passed an examination substantially equivalent to the level for which licensure is being requested;

(2) is practicing in a state that does not license or certify social workers or clinical social workers, but is certified by a national association approved by the board and the individual has applied for a license from the board; or

(3) has been approved by the board to take the examination and has graduated from a school or program approved by the board and the individual has completed any experience requirement.

(b) A temporary permit expires **on the earlier earliest** of:

(1) the date the individual holding the permit is issued a license under this article;

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(2) the date the board disapproves the individual's license application; or

(3) one hundred eighty (180) days after the initial permit is issued.

(c) The board may renew a temporary permit if the individual holding the permit was scheduled to take the next examination and the individual:

(1) did not take the examination; and

(2) shows good cause for not taking the examination.

(d) A permit renewed under subsection (c) expires on the date the individual holding the permit receives the results from the next examination given after the permit was issued, and may not be extended if the applicant has failed the examination.

SECTION 8. IC 25-23.6-5-14 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2002]: Sec. 14. An individual who applies for a license under this article may be exempted by the board from the examination requirement under this chapter if the individual:

(1) is licensed or certified to practice as a social worker, ~~or~~ clinical social worker, **or bachelor's social worker** in another state and has passed an examination substantially equivalent to the level for which the individual is requesting licensure;

(2) has engaged in the practice of social work or the practice of clinical social work for not less than three (3) of the previous five (5) years;

(3) has passed a licensing examination substantially equivalent to the licensing examination under this article;

(4) has passed an examination pertaining to the social work and clinical social work laws and rules of this state; and

(5) has not committed any act or is not under investigation for any act that constitutes a violation of this article;

and is otherwise qualified under section 1, ~~or 2, or 2.5~~ of this chapter ~~and section 3 of this chapter~~ and pays an additional fee.

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